General programme "Fundamental Rights and Justice": specific programme "Drugs prevention and information", 2007-2013

2005/0037B(COD) - 31/08/2007 - Commission communication on Council's position

The Commission is of the opinion that the Council common position preserves the essence of the original Commission proposal and takes the European Parliament's main amendments at first reading into account.

The differences of substance between the common position and the original Commission proposal are as follows:

- **Article 3(a):** addition of a specific objective that broadens the scope of the programme by providing that it can support measures intended to prevent drug consumption, in particular by reducing drug-related harm and making use of methods of treatment based on latest scientific knowledge;
- **Article 3(c):** the involvement of the European Parliament in the process of evaluating the Drugs Action Plans is emphasised;
- **Article 4(b):** a proposal for a specific project will be eligible for financing if it involves at least two Member States or one Member State and one acceding or applicant state (instead of three Member States, as originally proposed by the Commission);
- **Article 6:** women and parents are listed among the target groups of the programme;
- **Article 9:** when the annual work programme is adopted, the expert technical opinion of EMCDDA will be taken into account;
- **Article 10: comitology:** the double committee principle is introduced (management committee for the adoption of the annual work programme and advisory committee for other questions, whereas the original Commission proposal provided only for an advisory committee).

The Council common position is based on a compromise between the European Parliament, the Council and the Commission. The compromise concerns the text as a whole, including the question of comitology. The Council common position takes over the solution negotiated by the three institutions in connection with the "Civil Justice" programme (COD/2005/0040), namely the inclusion of a recital concerning notification of the implementing measures to the European Parliament and a Commission declaration on the matter. As a consequence, the Commission accepts the common position.